Washington, DC – Tonight Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore) released the following statement in response to President Bush's proposal:

"The President proposes to reduce troop levels to the same levels as 2006, when Americans voted overwhelmingly for a new direction," said Congressman Blumenauer. "This drawdown says nothing to the success of the surge or Bush's policies, but rather reflects that our military is at a breaking point. It is clear that we must begin withdrawing now. Iraqis don't want us there, Americans don't want us there, and I will do everything in my power to stand up to the President and end this nightmare."

Congressman Blumenauer has opposed the Iraq war from the start. In January he introduced his own legislation, "The New Direction for Iraq Act of 2007," which would require the redeployment of U.S. troops from Iraq, a new diplomatic offensive to stabilize Iraq and aggressive efforts at oversight and accountability.